

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
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R 170633Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO USDA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4160

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 8687

FROM ACTING AGATT FOR USDA PASS FAS- GRAIN AND FEED DIV. AND
PARKER, ERS BOMBAY FOR AGOFFICER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, IN

SUBJECT: SOUTHWEST MONSOON

1. THE SOUTHWEST MONSSON SET IN OVER SOUTH KERALA (SOUTHERMOST
TRIP OF INDIA) ON JUNE 1, ABOUT NORMAL DATE. ITS PROGRESS SINCE THEN
HAS BEEN GENERALLY SLUGGISH AND BEHIND SCHEDULE IN SEVERAL
AREAS. THE MONSOON ADVANCED INTO NORTH KERALA, AND COASTAL KARNATAKA
IN THE SOUTH, AND ASSAM AND ADJACENT STATES IN NORTHEASTERN INDIA
ON JUNE 7. IN THE FOLLOWING WEEK, IT REACHED THE WHOLE OF KARNATAKA,
SOUTHERN COASTAL AREAS OF MAHARASHTRA, SOUTHERN ANDHRA PRADESH,
AND NORTHERN PARTS OF WEST BENGAL.

2. DURING THE FIRST HALF OF JUNE, SEVERAL AREAS IN NORTH
AND NORTHWESTERN INDIA RECEIVED FAIRLY WIDESPREAD PRE-MONSOON
RAINS, WHICH SHOULD PROVE BENEFICIAL FOR THE SOWING OF THE
KHARIF (FALL AND WINTER HARVESTED) CROPS.

3. CUMULATIVE RAINFALL FROM JUNE 1 TO 15, 1977 WAS NORMAL OR
ABOVE NORMAL IN ASSAM AND ADJOINING STATES, SOUTHERN BIHAR,
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PUNJAB. HIMACHAL PRADESH, JAMMU AND KASHMIR, RAJASTHAN,
GUJARAT, NORTHEAST MAHARASHTRA, ANDHRA PRADESH, TAMIL NADU, NORTH
INTERIOR KARNATAKA, AND LADSHADWEEP. RAINFALL OVER THE REST OF
THE COUNTRY WAS DEFICIENT TOSSCANTY RANGING FROM 20 PERCENT IN
NORTH BENGAL TO 80 PERCENT IN SOUTHEAST MAHARASHTRA (BELOW NORMAL).

4. ACCORDING TO A LONG RANGE FORECAST OF THE INDIAN METEOROLOGICAL

DEPARTMENT RELEASED ON JUNE 11, RAINFALL DURING JUNE-SEPTEMBER 1977 IS EXPECTED TO BE NORMAL IN PENINSULAR AND NORTHWEST INDIA. RAINFALL DURING THIS PERIOD IS PREDICTED AROUND 97 PERCENT OF THE NORMAL IN MOST OF PENINSULAR INDIA(MAHARASHTRA, GUJARAT, MADHYA PRADESH, NORTHWEST ANDHRA PRADESH, KARNATAKA, AND COASTAL ANDHRA PRADESH) AND ABOUT 106 PERCENT OF THE NORMAL IN NORTHWEST INDIA(WEST UTTAR PRADESH, HARAYAN, PUNJAB HIMACHAL PRADESH, JAMMU AND KASHMIR, AND RAJASTHAN). THE WEATHER DEPARTMENT DOES NOT MAKE ANY FORECAST FOR EASTERN INDIA.

5. METEOROLOGICAL OFFICIALS IN NEW DELHI EXPECT THE SOUTHWEST MONSOON TO BE NORMAL AS PREDICTED IN THEIR LONG RANGE FORECAST. THE DELAY OF TWO TO THREE WEEKS IN THE ARRIVAL OR STRENGTHENING OF MONSOON ACTIVITY IS GENERALLY CONSIDERED WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF NORMAL VARIATION.GOHEEN

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